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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TC 1700

Appl. No.:

08/957,431

Applicant:

John E. Holland et al. October 24, 1997

Filed: TC/AU:

3652

Examiner:

John L. Goff

Docket No.:

3781-11

Customer No.: 30166

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Confirmation No. 2082

Sir:

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Date of Deposit February 17, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper, which is a Reply Filed With Appeal (our file no. 3781-11), and is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 1450.

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Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY FILED WITH APPEAL

Sir:

Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal on December 16, 2003 from the Examiner's final rejection dated September 16, 2003. Applicant herein submits an amendment to the pending claims for the Examiner's consideration.

If any fees for the accompanying response are required, Applicant requests that this be considered a Petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account 09-0528.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.